

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANAA 000212

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/29/2016

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [SO](#) [YM](#)

SUBJECT: YEMENIS SUPPORTIVE OF SOMALI PARLIAMENTARY  
SESSION, ASK USG TO PRESS OTHER ARAB LEAGUE MEMBERS FOR  
FUNDING SUPPORT

REF: A. STATE 14531 (NOTAL)

[B](#). ZORICK-HOOD TELCON 1/16/2006

[C](#). NAIROBI 210

[D](#). NAIROBI 260

Classified By: AMBASSADOR THOMAS C. KRAJESKI, FOR REASONS 1.4 (B) AND (D).

[1](#). (C) Ambassador delivered points contained in refs A and B to Foreign Minister Abubakr al-Qirbi during a January 16 meeting. Ambassador welcomed the efforts of Somali leaders, as well as facilitation efforts by the Republic of Yemen Government (ROYG), to hold a full parliamentary session inside Somalia. Ambassador urged the ROYG to use its influence with Somali leaders to ensure their participation in the session, and to ensure that there are no perceptions of external pressures that could provide an excuse to some Somalis not to attend.

[2](#). (C) The FonMin assured Ambassador that Yemen "had no agenda" other than to provide a venue for the Transitional Federal Government President and Speaker of Parliament to "sit together and talk," as they did in Aden earlier in the month. "Our interest," he said, "is to see a legitimate Somali government in control with strong institutions." It is especially important to wrest control of Mogadishu from the Islamic groups and "businessmen with militias." He said the businessmen can be dealt with economically, but the "extremists will be a different story." Qirbi stressed that the Somalis will require financial and logistical support if a full parliamentary session is to succeed.

[3](#). (C) In a briefing for U.S., EU and Russian heads of mission on January 25, the Foreign Minister welcomed U.S. statements of support for the full parliamentary session, and asked for international financial backing for the session to be held in Baidoa. Qirbi noted that the Arab League had established a USD 20 million fund to promote peace and stability in Somalia, but only Yemen and Algeria had paid their shares. The FonMin asked the USG and others to press other Arab League members to pay their contributions and use a portion of the funds to support the parliamentary session.

[4](#). (C) Ambassador said he would pass the request on to Washington for consideration, adding that another major way in which Yemen and other countries could support the Somali peace process is by respecting the UN arms embargo. Qirbi replied that it would be "imperative to take a fresh look" at the embargo if the Somali government re-assembles. "We want to support a legitimate Somali government that can defend itself," he said.

Krajieski